

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 COME-00 AID-05
AGRE-00 DOTE-00 OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 CEQ-01 /128 W
-----055598 100308Z /61/72

R 091359Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3516
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ACCRA 3706

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR SECTION INFO)

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, GH, GW
SUBJ: FRG MINISTER VISITS GHANA

1. SUMMARY: DR. HAMM-BRUCHER VISITED GHANA TO DISCUSS
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. FRG
WILL PROVIDE A \$17.4 MILLION LOAN TO GHANA. GOG SUPPORTS
SWAPO, WANTS A WESTERN ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICA,
DOES NOT SHARE WEST'S CONCERN OVER INTERVENTION IN
AFRICA BY OUTSIDE POWERS AND CONSIDERS RHODESIAN
INTERNAL SETTLEMENT A FAIT ACCOMPLI. DR. HAMM-BRUCHER
FELT THAT GHANA IS BASICALLY PRO-WESTERN AND WILL CONTINUE
TO TAKE A MODERATE POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.
END SUMMARY

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2. DR. (MRS.) HILDEGARDE HAMM-BRUCHER, MINISTER OF
STATE IN FOREIGN OFFICE, VISITED GHANA LAST WEEK TO
DISCUSS BILATERWJX ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. AFTER A MEETING
WITH COMMISSIONER (MINISTER) FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING
ABBEY ON MAY 2, GOG ANNOUNCED THAT FRG WILL PROVIDE A
\$17.4 MILLION LOAN TO HELP FINANCE A TRANSPORTATION
PROJECT ON VOLTA LAKE, AN AGRICULTURAL PROJECT IN THE

NORTH AND A HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT AT BUI. LOAN IS PROVIDED UNDER A TECHNICAL AID AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN COUNTRIES IN 1975. TERMS ARE GENEROUS--50 YEARS TO REPAY, 10-YEAR GRADE PERIOD, INTEREST RATE ONLY THREE-QUARTERS OF ONE PER CENT.

3. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, DR. HAMM-BRUCHER SAID GERMANY IS HELPING GHANA BECAUSE IT IS ONE OF THE COUNTRIES MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY RISING OIL PRICES. REPLYING, DR. ABBEY THANKED THE FRG FOR ITS WIDE-RANGING ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY TO AGRICULTURE, AND SAID THAT FRG HAS BECOME ONE OF GHANA'S MOST IMPORTANT AID DONERS. PRESS SAID THAT SINCE 1975 GHANA HAS RECEIVED \$74.5 MILLION IN LOANS FROM THE FRG.

4. DR. HAMM-BRUCHER ALSO MET WITH THE ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MAJ. GEN. ROBERT E.A. KOTEI, WHO IS ALSO ARMY COMMANDER AND A MEMBER OF 7-MAN SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL NOW RULING GHANA, AND WITH OTHER SENIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS. SUBSTANCE OF THIS MEETING WAS RL REVEALED PUBLICLY BUT WE UNDERSTAND FROM FRG AMBASSADOR HERE THAT FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS EMERGED:

5. NAMIBIA: THE MINISTER STRONGLY URGED GOG TO SUPPORT THE WESTERN FIVE CONTACT GROUP'S PROPOSALS
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ON NAMIBIA. SHE SAID BONN REGARDED THESE PROPOSALS AS SOUND AND WELL BALANCED AND FEARED THAT IF THEY WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY SWAPO, THE RESULT WOULD BE AN INTENSIFICATION OF WARFARE AND A REAL DANGER OF AN UNACCEPTABLE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA ALONG THE LINES OF THAT REACHED IN SALISBURY. SHE ALSO BELIEVED THERE WAS A DANGER OF NON-AFRICAN POWERS INTERVENTING IN THE AREA, EVENTUALLY THREATENING ALL OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. KOTEI SAID THAT GOG "STOOD FIRMLY BEHIND SWAPO" AND BELIEVED THAT THE WESTERN PROPOSALS "DON'T DO JUSTICE" TO THAT ORGANIZATION. GHANA BELIEVED THAT WALVIS BAY MUST BE INCLUDED IN AN INDEPTENDENT NAMIBIA AND THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE MUST HAVE THE LAST WORD IN THE TERRITORY--NOT THE SOUTH AFRICAN ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL. KOTEI ADDED THAT GOG HAD A STRONG DISTRUST OF THE CLARIFYING COMMENTS VORSTER SAID HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE WESTERN POWERS. HE ADDED THAT THE "TEN POINTS OF SWAPO" ARE SOLIDLY SUPPORTED BY THE GOG. (COMMENT: NEITHER WE NOR THE GERMANS ARE FAMILIAR WITH THESE "TEN POINTS.") KOTEI SAID THAT GHANA CONTINUED TO BELIEVE THAT ONLY STEADY ECONOMIC

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ACCRA 3706

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

AND MILITARY PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA WILL WORK.
HE THEREFORE URGED A WESTERN ECONOMIC BOYCOTT ON
SOUTH AFRICA, EVEN WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT SUCH A
COURSE WILL TAKE TIME TO HAVE ITS EFFECT. GHANA
DID NOT SHARE THE WEST'S CONCERN OVER OUTSIDE INTER-
VENTION IN AFRICA BY NON-AFRICAN POWERS AND DID NOT
CONSIDER IT A GRAVE THREAT.

6. MRS. HAMM-BRUCHER SAID THAT FRG DID NOT REPEAT
NOT REGARD AN ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICA AS
SUITABLE OR APPROPRIATE, SINCE IT WOULD HIT THE
BLACK POPULATION HARDEST AND INTENSIFY THE ALREADY
PRESENT LAAGER MENTALITY AMONG THE AFRIKANERS. SHE
THEREFORE CONTINUED TO HOPE THE GOG WOULD BRING ITS
INFLUENCE TO BEAR ON SWAPO TO ACCEPT THE WESTERN
FIVE PROPOSAL. THE FRG SHARED GHANA'S ULTIMATE
OBJECTIVE OF REPLACING CURRENT RULE IN NAMIBIA WITH
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BLACK MAJORITY RULE.

7. ZIMBABWE. GERMAN DELEGATION RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT GHANAIS CONSIDERED THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN SALISBURY A FACT ACCOMPLISHED WHICH COULD NOT BE REVERSED. KOTEI SAID GHANA BELIEVED THE PATRIOTIC FRONT MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE EXISTING GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND REITERATED THIS POINT SEVERAL TIMES IN THE CONVERSATION. KOTEI SAID UNTIL THIS HAPPENED, GOG WOULD CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE ARMED STRUGGLE AND REMAIN READY TO GIVE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT. GOG WAS EXTREMELY SKEPTICAL THAT THE AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP IN THE GOVERNMENT IN SALISBURY WAS ACTUALLY PARTICIPATING IN THE EXERCISE OF POWER. HE SAID THIS SKEPTICISM WOULD REMAIN UNTIL THE BLACK RHODESIANS CONTROLLED ARMED FORCES AND POLICE. THE MINISTER HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT DESPITE STRONG VERBAL SUPPORT FOR PATRIOTIC FRONT, GHANA REGARDED INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AS AN IRREVERSIBLE FACT BUT HOPED FOR ITS BROADENING TO INCLUDE NKOMO AND MUGABE.

8. THE MINISTER'S SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT WITH CHAIRMAN ACHEAMPONG WAS CANCELLED BY THE GHANAIS ON SHORT NOTICE BECAUSE OF HIS "INDISPOSITION."
(COMMENT: WHILE THE CHAIRMAN COULD WELL HAVE BEEN ILL, GERMANS TAKE THIS WITH A GRAIN OF SALT AND CONCLUDED THAT HE WAS PROBABLY SIMPLY PREOCCUPIED WITH THE PRESSING DOMESTIC CONCERNS WHICH ARE CURRENTLY HARASSING HIM.) GERMAN DELEGATION FOUND GENERAL KOTEI'S VIEWS GENERALLY BALANCED AND MODERATE. THE MINISTER CARRIED AWAY THE IMPRESSION THAT GHANA WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE A GENERALLY MODERATE POSITION ON AFRICAN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS AND THAT IT IS BASICALLY CONFIDENTIAL

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"PRO-WESTERN."

9. IN A SOMEWHAT PUZZLING POSTSCRIPT TO THE BILATERAL DISCUSSION, KOTEI ASKED THE MINISTER IF IT WERE TRUE THAT THE GERMANS "HAD URGED THE U.S. TO CONSTRUCT THE NEUTRON BOMB?" MRS. HAMM-BRUCHER RESPONDED THAT THEY HAD NOT ATTEMPTED TO INFLUENCE THE AMERICAN DECISION IN ANY WAY.
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